

Arlington Human Rights Commission Sub-Committee Minutes 1/17/18
Arlington Senior Center, 7-8 pm

Present: Co-Chair Mel Goldsipe, Commissioners Sharon Grossman and Gary Horowitz
Guests: Betsy Carlton-Gysan, Naresh Kachoria, Dan Levenson, Heidi Hoffman

Meeting called to Order at 7:05 p.m.

The Sub-Committee met to discuss a 3-event series jointly held by the ADL and AHRC. The goal for these events is to raise awareness about and open up a dialogue with the community.

The topic for the first event will be hate symbols. The ADL did a presentation on the same topic at U Mass Lowell and will use that presentation as the basis for this event. Content includes anti-semitic, racist, and white power symbols. The ADL will include information on the symbols' origin, their history, and their use today. Understanding the history will hopefully boost recognition of these symbols and why they are hurtful to people and society. A focus on context and how to decipher benign vs. hateful intent will be included, e.g., the adoption of symbols by clothing brands.

Format:

- Introduction: AHRC
 - Welcome the audience and introduce the topic
 - Reference the rise in anti-semitic and other hate incidents in town
- Presentation: ADL
 - The bigger context: Charlottesville, online hate, etc.
 - Review of specific symbols with visuals
- Tools & skills: ADL & AHRC
 - Will include a hand-out of who to contact
 - ADL will provide *Responding to Hate* – can be updated to include Arlington specific information
- Q&A

Logistics:

- *Venue:* Commissioner Horowitz will see if City Hall is available on 4/10, back up date of 3/27
- *Audience:* Arlington residents of high school age or older, Target 100-125 attendees
 - Will send invitations to:
 - Arlington Schools - School Committee, principals, PTO leaders, the Central Office
 - Town officers: Board of Selectmen,
 - Associations: Winchester Multi-cultural Association, MA Association of Human Rights Commissions

Respectfully submitted by Betsy Carlton-Gysan